ARF NOTES

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President's Message: Karen Robinette

Happy New Year! A Thank You to Ann Perkins for substituting a list of suggested reading for my message in the previous is-

Well, the "Thank Goodness the Holidays are Over" Banquet was very successful. We had 69 members in attendance. Thanks to the Program Committee's choice of our after dinner entertainment, we all left stomping our feet and clapping our hands to the music of 17 year old jazz vocalist Darynn Dean. As many of you know, putting on a special event can present many problems. It takes a village and dedicated members to get all the necessary tasks done. A special thanks to Ron McIntyre for working on the mailing which some of us used in selectlist, getting the response cards from the ARF mail box, and delivering them to Joyce Linden. And thanks to Larry Caretto for printing arships. the nametags and to Joyce for putting out all the fires. As I continue, I would like to everyone that the Election of acknowledge the many ARF members who have worked tirelessly this past fall. Joyce you are interested or want to Linden heads the Program committee and recommend someone please let under her leadership the committee has a board member know. scheduled speakers and events well into Peace and blessings to you all, 2016. This will make my next year's work Karen Robinette

as program chair much easier.

The remainder of this year also has some exciting programs: I would like to remind you all of the April 1st field trip to the California Science Museum Space Shuttle Exhibit in Exposition Park. Transportation will be provided and we will be able to dine at the museum while enjoying the beautiful rose gardens. Other upcoming events include the Annual Spring Memorial Luncheon on May 9th and the June 6th Picnic/General Meeting/ Election of Officers.

I would like to thank our Vice President, Alyce Akers, who has filled in for me during my scheduled travels within and outside of the continental United States. We both like to travel and it just so happens that she is home when I am gone. However, I will be presiding at all the meetings this spring. Last, but not least, I want to acknowledge Ken Jones for his service and dedication in chairing the ARF Memorial Scholarship Committee for several years. Ken is now passing the baton, but he has provided the application procedure, evaluation criteria for the review of applications, and the memorial award worksheet, Ken, thank you for a job well done.

The application for the ARF Memorial Award has been edited and will be sent out this week, with a due date for submission of March 16th, 2015. Diane Schwartz, Roberta Mauksch, Daniel Blake, Jim Dole, and Patricia Murray have agreed to be applicant reviewers. Thank you. Several members (Larry Caretto, Pat Murray, Vicki Sharp, Nancy Owens, Joyce Linden, Bonnie Ericson, and myself) served on the ARF/COE/HANSEN Scholarship Committee. There was a lot of discussion regarding the way

GPAs were calculated by the College of Education and Larry Caretto developed a formula to get a more equitable calculation the four applicants who ing would receive the \$2500 schol-

In closing, I need to remind Officers is coming up soon. If

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George Holland (Kinesiology). I am in editorial review with Page Publishing in NY for a soft cover and ebook that should come out sometime in the later Spring. The title is *Nutrition*,

Physical Activity and Quality Aging. I did much of my research in the aging field as part of my responsibilities in Exercise Physiology (Dept. of Kinesiology). Following retirement I spent most of the year 2000 working with researchers on Japanese aging (highest longevity in developed world).

Elyce Wakerman (English). As an English Department retiree of 2012, after fourteen years teaching writing I am having my debut novel published this February 17th by Yucca Publishing, with excellent prepublication reviews. The book is called *A Tale of Two Citizens* and concerns the plight of immigrants coming to America - circa 1930s. Attitudes haven't much changed, I'm afraid.

Nora Weckler, the CSUN Psychology Department's founder and first chair, celebrated her 100th birthday on February 15th.



IN MEMORIAM

Jean Daniels (Sociology). Dr. Daniels, founder of the CSUN Department of Social Work and long-time Sociology professor passed away on Saturday January 17th. She was a role model, a mentor and an inspiration to many in the field of social work. She

earned her BA from the University of Kansas in 1964 and her MSW from Howard University in 1966, her MPH from UCLA in 1973 and her PhD from UCLA in 1976. Dr. Daniels began her tenure with CSUN in the fall of 1976 as a part time lecturer and remained with us until her retirement in 2013. Throughout her time at CSUN, Dr. Daniels continued to give back to the social work community by serving in various roles in the San Fernando Valley local chapter of the National Association of Social Workers and as a board member of organizations such as the American Lung Association, American Heart Association and the Northeast Valley Multipurpose Senior Center. After her retirement, she was inducted into the Social Work Hall of Fame at the California Social Welfare Archives 2014 Awards Reception. Her legacy will live on in the Jean E. Daniels Award for Leadership and Academic Excellence that is presented during our MSW hooding ceremony every May. The CSUN community will celebrate her life on Monday March 2nd at our campus Memorial Service in her honor. In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to the Jean E. Daniels Scholarship Fund.

William ("Bill") Huling (Counseling Center) died of congestive heart failure Tuesday, January 13th, 2015. He was a counselor in the CSUN Counseling Center beginning in 1973 after he had received his B.A. and M.A. at CSUN (San Fernando Valley State College). He earned his Ph.D. at the University of Southern California and was a licensed Marriage, Family Counselor with the state of California. Bill was for several years Chair of the Board of the San Fernando Valley Interfaith Council where he was a valiant supporter of inter-religious and inter-ethnic dialogue, as well as a dynamic organizer of human services for senior citizens across the Valley. He was a brilliant and warm role model for countless CSUN faculty and students. As a photographer always on hand for a party or a memorial, he had honed his camera skills while serving in the United States Air Force during the Korean War.

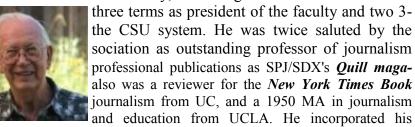
His entire family, including his lovely and loving wife, Patricia Grizzle-Huling, who taught in the Pan-African Studies Department, especially cherish and miss Bill. Bill survived his wife Clara (d. 1992) and his son William Keith who died two years ago. His grandson Kevin and other family members maintain the remarkable Louisianastyle "Les Sisters' Southern Kitchen" on Devonshire a block East of Topanga Canyon. Bill, Clara, and two of her women friends founded Les Sisters. They said that the three women argued like sisters, hence "Les Sisters." Kevin, who is one of the restaurant's managers, invites you to visit the restaurant anytime and introduce yourself as one of Bill's colleagues. Bill engendered many wonderful stories – come hear and tell!

DeWayne B. "Doc" Johnson (Journalism), passed away on December 31st, 2014 at the age of 94. In

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lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Heifer International, PO Box 8058, Little Rock, AR 72202-8058, or to the CSUN Journalism Chair's Fund, 18111 Nordhoff St., MC8311, Northridge, CA 91330-8311. De-Wayne was a professor of journalism at California State University, Northridge from 1961 to 1984. At

CSUN, he served an unprecedented year terms as an academic senator of California Newspaper Publishers Asin California. He contributed to such zine and the *Journalism Quarterly*, and *Review*. DeWayne received a 1948 BA in and a 1955 EdD in mass communication



UCLA master's thesis, *Flying Saucers: Fact or Fiction*, into his 2005 book *Space: A Journalist's Notebook*. An avid photographer, "Doc" was also a skilled artist, working in oil, acrylic and other media paintings. He was a deeply caring, generous man with boundless imagination, wit and creativity. He was an inspiring and supportive father, and a tireless volunteer and participant in humanitarian, educational, community, church and political causes. After retirement, he served as an editorial consultant for grad students and other writers. His first wife, Lorna Doone Wallace, mother of their three daughters, passed away on March 21, 2006. In his early 90's, Doc married Lily Rose Petit, who died after only 9 fun-filled months together. A survivor of a stroke paralyzing his right side in July 2012, he kept his sense of humor, and his vast vocabulary remained largely intact to the end. He is survived by daughters: Karen, Christina and Janice; 2 grandchildren, and 4 great-grandchildren *From the obituary in the Los Angeles Times on Jan. 11*, 2015.

Gloria Lothrop (History) died on Feb. 2nd at the age of 80 of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. She spent most of her career teaching at Cal. Poly. Pomona and CSUN, where she became the first W.P. Whitsett Professor of California history in 1994, and held the post until her retirement in 2004. Her research centered around uncovering the roles women played in the development of the American west, a topic which was largely unexplored when she began her research in the 1970s. She studied sources such as cookbooks, diaries, letters, and mementos tucked into family bibles. John Lindsay (Mathematics) died at the age of 93 on December 24th, 2014, from natural causes. He was a Navy veteran of World War II, and after the war he taught mathematics at Texas Tech University. He was recalled to active duty during the Korean War and continued in the reserve, giving a total of 33 years of service to our country. In 1956 he received a Danforth Teacher Grant and pursued his Ph.D at UCLA. In 1964 he began teaching at CSUN where he later served as Associate Dean of the School of Science and Mathematics for many years, and retired in 1989. John was a member of the Reseda Masonic Lodge and the Van Nuys Chapter of Royal Arch. He was also active in the San Fernando Valley Genealogical Society. He is survived by his wife Kathleen and daughter Sally, and was preceded in death by his daughter Kathe Lindsay-Jewett, who worked for many years in the Library at CSUN.

Micheline Sakharoff (Foreign Languages), who had been ailing for the last year, died on Jan 16th, 2015. Her daughter and son-in-law, Katherine and Mark Reid, and three grandchildren were at her bedside during the final hours. Micheline was associated with CSUN from its earliest beginnings in the early 60s to the late 80s. She was a much loved and respected professor of French, a very active member of the faculty for many years, chairperson of the Dept. of the Foreign Languages, and Dean of Graduate Studies. Her students adored her, and many of them were still in active contact with her. After her retirement, Micheline and her husband Albert went on major sailing trips to Hawaii and Tahiti, Albert being a passionate and accomplished sailor. They also traveled frequently to their homes in Paris and Brittany. In Ventura, where they had been living since the early seventies, they were enthusiastic and generous supporters of the arts, and instrumental in the establishment of the annual *Ventura Music Festival*. They were also very supportive of the *Rubicon Theatre* in Ventura as well as being major sponsors of the *New West Symphony*. In 2013, Ventura College honored Micheline with a 90th birthday celebration for her contributions in support of that institution, and in 2009, she was awarded the *Philanthropist of the Year Ventura County Award*. Micheline was still actively engaged in philanthropic activities up to the very end. *Reported by Maya Reid*.

Manley Witten (Journalism), former journalism lecturer and publisher of the *Daily Sundial*, died Sunday following a long struggle with pancreatic cancer. Manley was publisher/advisor to the student newspaper longer than any other faculty member at CSUN. He moved to Pennsylvania about 8 years ago, after marrying late in life and becoming the father of twins.

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SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS

The <u>ARF/College of Education Phil and Shirley Hansen Memorial Scholarship</u> is administered jointly by **ARF** and the College of Education. The 2015 Awards were made possible through proceeds from the Phil and Shirley Hansen Trust.

This year there are four recipients of \$2,500 Scholarships Recipients, whose qualifications are summarized below:

Luis Cervantes

Luis earned his B.A. degree at CSUN, with a major in Psychology and a minor in English Literature. He is currently enrolled in the College Counseling and Student Services Master's degree program. Luis is a first generation American whose parents escaped civil war in El Salvador. At 13, he was identified as having academic potential and supported by Project GRAD, and then has been active in Project GRAD at CSUN, serving as a mentor and summer instructor for those with backgrounds of poverty similar to his own. His goal is to become a counselor working with non-profit organizations dedicated to providing equitable educational opportunities.

Felicia Conlan

Felicia is currently enrolled in the Doctoral Studies Program in the Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies. She is a Speech Language Pathologist in the Los Angeles Unified School District, where her students with special needs are mainly Hispanic. Felicia earned her B.A. degree at UCLA and was a KCAL-TV reporter/writer for four years before becoming a bilingual elementary teacher. She then earned a CSUN Master's degree in Communication Disorders. With her doctoral degree, Felicia aspires use her strong leadership skills to affect positive changes in education.

Jessica Haroonian

Jessica earned her B.A. degree at UCLA in Sociocultural Anthropology and her Mild/Moderate Special Education Credential at CSUN. She is currently enrolled in the Master's degree program in Mild/Moderate Special Education, and has taught at two Los Angeles Unified high schools, Fairfax High School in a Special Day Center classroom and Linda Marquez High School as a Resource Specialist. Jessica aims to be a quality special educator adept at collaborating with teacher colleagues to facilitate the content learning of adolescents with special needs.

Matthew Soto

Matt is enrolled in the Master's degree program in Higher Education offered by the Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies. He earned his Bachelor's degree from California Lutheran University with majors in Communication and Ethnic Studies, and a minor in English. It was at CLU that Matt discovered a dedication to helping first-generation college students, having experienced numerous struggles in his own early undergraduate years. During his first year in the CSUN Master's program, Matt built on his experiences and created and implemented a student support group for first generation university students residing in CSUN student housing. He plans to enter a doctoral program in the future so that he might continue to develop as a role model and advocate for low-income university students in higher education.

ARF Scholarship Program: This program is funded and administered by the Association of Retired Faculty. The awardees will be selected on March 16th, and their accomplishments summarized in the next issue of **ARF Notes.** All scholarship winners will be honored at the May 9th luncheon.

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REPORTS FROM PREVIOUS PROGRAMS ARF Banquet, January 2015



ARF members, spouses, and friends enjoyed a delightful evening, with a delicious dinner, a silent auction of NeedleARF items (raising \$902 for the ARF Scholarship Fund), and afterward an evening of excellent jazz music. Darynn Dean, 17, a senior at Mira Costa high school in Manhattan Beach, was truly a very

poised, talented vocalist. It was amazing that Darynn has only been singing for four years. This rising star kept us tapping our toes, bobbing our head and clapping our hands as she sang great renditions of popular jazz songs during her one-hour performance.

Darynn has quite a few notable performances in her short career. These include the Central Avenue Jazz Festival in Los Angeles, the Gardena Jazz Festival, and in 2014 and 2015 performing with the Grammy Jazz Vocal Ensemble.

She received the Los Angeles Music Center Spotlight Award, is a National ACT-SO Gold Medalist, winner in 2013 and 2014 Dolo Coker Jazz Scholarship and a recipient of the Roderick D. Jones Scholarship. Darynn has applied to several universities where she plans to major in business and minor in Vocal Jazz.

Jamael Dean, 16, Darynn's cousin, accompanied her. He is a wonderful jazz pianist who complemented Darynn's style. Richard Simon (JazzAmerica), bassist, mentor and advisor added that professional quality that Darynn exudes in her delivery.

Thanks to Rita Streimer, ARF Member, for recommending this young lady and her accompaniment to entertain us with such great music.

Note: Joyce Linden received this letter from Richard Simon, bassist and mentor of the group, and I thought it worth printing here.

I just wanted to express my gratitude to you and to the entire Association...for the warm and generous reception you have to Darynn Dean, her cousin Jamael and myself at last night's musicale.

These youngsters told me they consider this engagement a highlight of their budding careers. The combination of the attentive and responsive audience, the unexpected and delightful meal, the impressive remuneration made for an exceptional evening. Even after the applause died down, your fellow faculty members extended your embrace with lots of praise and encouragement for the three of us.

Thank you so much for inviting Darynn to perform for you. Speaking now for the organization I represent, JazzAmerica, it's gratifying to see once again how music can create a bridge to connect the generations. We'll continue to nurture the talents of the Darynns and Jamaels whenever we're fortunate enough to find them. All the Best,

Richard Simon

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

March 11th Program: Jim Dole will be presenting a photo tour of Africa, based on a recent trip. Put this on your calendars—Jim has presented previous ARF programs based on his excellent photography.

April 1st Field Trip: Our field trip this year will be to the California Science Museum at Exposition Park, highlighted by the Space Shuttle Exhibit. Information will be mailed out on meeting time and bus transportation.

BOOK GROUPS



The First Wednesday Book Group met on February 4th at Chris Smith's home. The book we discussed was Grey Mountain by John Grisham. Strip

mining and big coal are the subject of this novel. As the plot unfolds we see Samantha Kofer, age 29, loses her \$180,000 job as a lawyer. Her world of privilege vanishes and Samantha enters into the world of poverty and injustice inflicted on people by mining companies. Samantha volunteers to work at the Mountain Clinic. Legal Aid The people of Appalachia have seen their mountain tops blown off and the strip mines that follow, causing health hazards of black lung disease, deaths by accident, and environmental destruction. They have nowhere to go for legal help but to the Mountain Legal Aid Clinic. The FBI, thugs, murder, and romance runs through the plot. Some of the members felt that the characters were not developed in depth and thus were unbelievable. However, the novel points to the political problem of Big Coal as an issue that our country needs to address. Reported by Chris Smith.

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The **Wednesday Book Group** will meet on March 4th at 1:30 pm at the home of Helen Geidt. We will discuss *And the Mountains Echoed* by Khaled Houseini.

ARF Science Book Group

On January 21st, 2015 we met at the home of Christine Smith. Present were Mary Corcoran, Jim Dole, Bill Hoseck, John Motil, Phyllis Russell, Sandra Jewett, Linda Jones, and Christine Smith. The group discussed: Alan Turing: The Enigma, The Book that Inspired the Film, The Imitation Game, by Andrew Hodges, (Preface by Douglas Hofstadter). A lively discussion ensued as we explored the author's recounting of the life of Alan Turing. Hodges included 200 pages of information from declassified documents from World War II which added to the length of 750 pages! We discussed Turing's early life, and his versatile mind as a theoretical mathematician, logician, engineer, and philosopher. He was also a marathon runner, homosexual, eccentric, and had a possible autism spectrum disorder, indicated by his stammer, high pitched voice, and extreme social awkwardness.

But his Ph.D. topic, "Computable Numbers" and its application to machines led to the development of the Turing machine, and proved what can and cannot be done by any computer. It cracked the German ciphers in WWII and had a great effect on the outcome of shipping and sea battles of the war. We also discussed the Homosexuality Trial and how it led to Turing taking his own life June 7th, 1954. After the Queen pardoned Turing in 2013, the question remained - what are the contributions he could have made if he had lived? As Hofstadter stated in the foreword to Hodge's book, Alan Turning "was a multifaceted man whose honesty and decency were too much for his society and his times and who brought about his own downfall."

John Motil's advisor at University of Illinois had a letter from Turing recommending the ACE or any digital computer as a model for any machine. His advisor, Ross Ashby, and Turing became friends and members of the Ratio Club. *Reported by John Motil and Chris Smith*.

The book for March 18th is: *Lives in Ruins: Archaeologists and Seductive Lure of Human Rubble*, by Marilyn Johnson.

FILM GROUPS

Eleven members of the **Monday Film Group** gathered at the home of Mary Corcoran on December 15th to discuss two movies, *Theory of Everything* and *Nightcrawler*. Both movies evoked strong emotions from the group.

All members praised Theory of Everything for its acting, with Eddie Redmayne's performance as Stephen likely to win an Oscar. Felicity Jones was viewed as excellent as Jane Hawking. The theme of their overcoming the adversity of Stephen's illness was uplifting. The setting at Cambridge, England was seen as authentic by two members of the group who had lived there for three years in the 1960's. Stephen's probing oral examination for his doctorate was deemed realistic by one group member who had that same experience. The accompanying music, taut script and beautiful camera work all added to the film's impact. The group noted that Stephen and Jane were married for 30 years but the movie portrayed it as much shorter, perhaps so that the lead actors would not have to be aged so much. The caregiver who became Stephen's second wife was shown more positively in the movie than she was in real life. Members gave this film an overall rating of 8.95.

Nightcrawler raised conflicting views between group members and within individuals as well. Jake Gyllenhaal gave a masterful performance as the amoral, unlikable, sociopathic videographer chasing violent and gory news stories. His willingness to do anything to succeed was troubling but his stories were close to what we see every evening on the local news. There was some concern that the movie fit with the deteriorating moral fiber of the younger generation, but others remarked that our parents expressed those feelings about the younger generation years ago. Rene Russo's expressive but understated performance as the ratings-seeking television news editor was noted by some to be worthy of a best supporting actress Oscar. Actions and expressions drove the plot more than words. Members ranked the film at 8.1. (Reported by Abe Feinberg)

Ten members of the **Monday Film Group** gathered at the home of Peggy Steiner on January 19th to discuss *Birdman* and *The Imitation Game*, both of which were nominated for a Best Picture. *Birdman*, a film about an actor trying to rise above the action hero role he played in his early career (Birdman) with a serious play he writes, directs, produces and acts in, elicited a wide range of responses, with most not liking or enjoying the film, but with several praising the individual aspects of it. There were mixed feelings about the music--with some annoyed and others exhilarated by the sounds of pounding drums and loud percussion instruments as Michael Keaton races through the hallways behind and beneath the stage where his play is being performed. Many members

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thought the plot was confusing and too disjointed to the point where it was difficult to understand what was going on. Others enjoyed the complexity and the fact that it lent itself to myriad interpretations. The one issue upon which members did agree: despite the brilliance of each of its individual aspects--the acting, cinematography, editing and special effects--the whole was not seen as greater than its parts. Members ranked this film a mediocre 6.8.

Members thought the individual parts of *The Imi*tation Game were also skillfully executed, but in this film the whole was seen as greater than the sum of its parts. As one member commented, everything worked seamlessly together without the viewer being consciously aware of individual elements. The acting was highly praised, particularly Benedict Cumberbatch as Alan Turing, the brilliant mathematician whose computer-like machine cracked the German Enigma code during WW II, and Keira Knightley, a math whiz whom Turing hires to help him crack the code based on her winning a crossword puzzle competition. The poignancy of their relationship is exceedingly wellportrayed: she initially misinterprets his giddiness as an expression of his shy love for her when, in fact, Turing (a closeted homosexual) is thinking of the complexity of breaking Enigma and how invaluable she will be to the team he has assembled to help him with it. The realism and intensity of the task before Turing and his team is also beautifully rendered by the cinematography and special effects employed in creating the machine Turing invents, with its wall-size expanse of wires and gears, all dramatically clicking into place as it finally makes sense of Enigma. Members additionally remarked on the framing of the moral dilemma facing Turing and his team members: whether to use Enigma immediately and save the lives of an Allied warship and its crew, revealing that Enigma had been cracked, or to use it sparingly so as not to arouse German suspicions which might lead them to abandon Enigma for another, even more complex code. The Imitation Game was seen as an intense film, fast paced, tight and concise, with no wasted words or action, which one member commented has been the hallmark of other British films the Group has heretofore discussed. Members gave this film a very high 9.1 rating. Reported by Dorena Knepper.

The **Tuesday Film Group** met at the home of Elizabeth Schneider on Feb 2nd to discuss *American*

Sniper. Directed by the excellent and ever-productive Clint Eastwood at age 84, it has been nominated for six Academy Awards and earned more in ticket sales than all the other Oscar nominated films combined. It's on a path to be the biggest box-office war film ever, surpassing Saving Private **Ryan**. Based on the life of late Navy Seal Chris Pyle, who became a legend as the most lethal sharpshooter in U.S. military history, it presents a gripping portrayal of not only the intensity and pressure of war, but the challenges veterans and their families face on the home front. The action sequences are truly tense and realistic and the acting by Bradley Cooper, who bulks up and transforms himself into Chris Kyle, is mesmerizing. The film has generated quite a bit of controversy about the glorification of war, guns, our hunger for heroes, the truth of Kyle's own account in his book, and the U.S. role in the Iraq war. The quick cuts between the war and domestic scenes are startling, yet add to our understanding of the consequences of war on the psyches of the men doing the killing, and the women and children who love them. The film ends on a somber note, with crowds lining the freeway to view the funeral cortege of Kyle, who was murdered in 2013 at a gun range by a veteran he was trying to help. The two ARF members who saw the film gave it a score of 8, and highly recommend it. Reported by Elizabeth Schneider.

The next meeting is at 1:30 pm on March 3rd at the home of Christine Smith. The group is open to new members.

M DINING GROUPS

Five members of the ARF Yum Yum **Lunch Group** met Thursday, February at Robin Hood, the British Pub in Sherman Oaks. Three members ordered the Afternoon Tea which came with small sandwiches, scones with Devon Cream and strawberry jam and Battenberg cake. The English tea was full-bodied. The unusual "checkerboard" cake slices had a "rind" of something that tasted like marzipan and the little squares were rimmed with strawberry jam. Other members ordered lunch off the menu, curried chicken pot pie with chips (fries) and peas, which looked like a very hearty meal. Conversation ranged from travel to movies, and what kind of food to sample at next month's outing. Suggestions included an Irish Pub for St. Patrick's Day, a return to La Frite, Greek or Indian. Greek food won out, so Yum Yum will go to Alexis in Northridge on Tuesday, March 17th. I'll email a reminder with the address in March. Reported by Joyce Linden.

A **SCCARF** dinner was held on Tuesday, February 17th at the Peasent Wine Bistro in Tarzana. Look for a report in the next issue of the newsletter.

ARF EXECUTIVE BOARD, 2014—2015

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